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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/375,007	08/16/1999	HIROSHI YOSHIMURA	21.1937	4454

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EXAMINER

DUONG, TAI V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/375,007

Applicant(s)

YOSHIMURA ET AL.

Examiner

TAI DUONG

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 14-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 07 April 2003 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) g.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

The proposed drawing correction filed on 04/07/03 is approved by the examiner.

Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 3, 6, 8-11 and 15-17 are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Since all claims previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142 have been rejoined, the restriction requirement made in Paper No. 5 is hereby withdrawn.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Owen.

Note Fig. 1 which identically discloses the claimed chassis 60 comprising a side wall extending from the periphery thereof, perpendicularly to one of the surfaces and a through-hole 74 (Fig. 5). Since the display panel, the circuit board and the flexible cable are not elements or parts of the chassis, the recited phrases “wherein a display panel and a circuit board are respectively mounted on a pair of opposite surfaces of the chassis and combined into a unit, ... on which the display panel is mounted “ and “connecting the pair of opposite surfaces on which the display panel and the circuit board are respectively mounted and the display and the circuit board are electrically connected by a flexible cable passing through the through-hole” have not given patentable weight because they are directed to the intended use of the chassis. It has been held that a claim containing a “recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed

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apparatus from a prior art apparatus" if the prior art apparatus teaches all the structural limitations of the claim. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1987).

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 2 05167. Note Figs. 3 and 4A-D which identically disclose the claimed chassis 10 comprising a side wall (14, 16) extending from the periphery thereof, perpendicularly to one of the surfaces. Since the display panel and the circuit board are not elements or parts of the chassis, the recited phrase "wherein a display panel and a circuit board are respectively mounted on a pair of opposite surfaces of the chassis and combined into a unit, ... on which the display panel is mounted " has not given patentable weight because it is directed to the intended use of the chassis. It has been held that a claim containing a "recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus" if the prior art apparatus teaches all the structural limitations of the claim. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1987).

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12 and 13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claims 1-11 and 14-19 are allowed

Claim 1 is allowed over Owen et al and GB 2 057 167 because these references do not disclose " a chassis combining the display panel and the circuit board into a unit, the circuit board having circuits thereon for driving the display, the circuit board is

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mounted on the second surface of the chassis which is opposite to the first surface on which the display panel is mounted".


Claims 7-9 are also allowed over the prior art of record because they also recite similar structure as that of claim 1 and additional structural details and particular steps.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yamazaki discloses a chassis which surrounds the display panel. However, the side wall at the display panel side is not perpendicular, and the display panel is not mounted on the surface of the chassis.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Tai Duong at telephone number 703 308-4873.


TVD

07/03/03


TOANTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER